

Serial No. 10/009,972
Reply to Advisory Action of March 8, 2004

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Claims 1-16 (Canceled)

17. (Currently Amended) An anti-tumor pharmaceutical composition comprising a replication competent herpes simplex virus vector comprising a nucleic acid sequence encoding cytosine deaminase operatively linked to a promoter, and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

18. (Previously Presented) A pharmaceutical composition according to claim 17, wherein said HSV vector is substantially aneurovirulent.

19. (Canceled)

20. (Currently Amended) [[A]] An anti-tumor pharmaceutical composition according to claim 17, comprising a herpes simplex virus vector comprising a nucleic acid sequence encoding cytosine deaminase operatively linked to a promoter, and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier wherein the vector comprises a deletion of the $\gamma_134.5$ gene.

21. (Currently Amended) [[A]] An anti-tumor pharmaceutical composition according to claim 17, comprising a herpes simplex virus vector comprising a nucleic acid sequence encoding cytosine deaminase operatively linked to a promoter, and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier wherein the sequence is inserted within the $\gamma_134.5$ gene deletion.

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22. (Previously Presented) A pharmaceutical composition according to claim 17, wherein the expression of the nucleic acid sequence encoding cytosine deaminase results in constitutive production of cytosine deaminase in vivo.

Claims 23-26 (Canceled)